

BILL # HB 2325

TITLE: schools; bullying; teacher training

SPONSOR: Bradley

STATUS: As Introduced

REQUESTED BY: House

PREPARED BY: Leah Ruggieri

FISCAL ANALYSIS

Description

The bill requires school district governing boards to provide all teachers with training in methods to recognize harassment, intimidation and bullying and training to prohibit students from harassing, intimidating and bullying other students.

Estimated Impact

The bill would not have a state fiscal impact because it would not alter the Basic State Aid funding formula or establish a new non-formula state funding for teacher training.

Analysis

School districts receive state funding through formula programs, such as Basic State Aid, and through non-formula programs, such as the Gifted Support program authorized by A.R.S. § 15-779.03. Currently no specific state funding is earmarked for teacher training, but public schools have wide latitude in how they spend their Basic State Aid funding and may use an unspecified portion of it for teacher training. HB 2325 would not modify the Basic State Aid funding formula or establish new non-formula state funding for the anti-bullying teacher training that would be required under the bill. It therefore would not have a state fiscal impact.

Local Government Impact

The bill could have a local fiscal impact if it forced school districts and charter schools to reallocate their current resources in order to provide the anti-bullying training that would be required by the bill. It is unclear whether this would occur, however, since public schools typically provide teacher training on an ongoing basis and the topics addressed in that training tend to vary over time anyway based on current need.

1/19/06